Rail Roko Andolan in Orissa

4682. SHRI H. K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rail Roko Andolan was observed in various parts of Orissa on 30th March, 2001; and

(b) whether it is a fact that Orissa, a backward State, is being continuously neglected by the Railway Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

Washable aprons at Railway Stations in Andhra Pradesh

4683. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway stations in Andhra Pradesh where provision of washable aprons has been introduced, station-wise;

(b) whether funds have been earmarked for this purpose;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether this facility would be extended to some more stations in the State; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Washable aprons have been introduced at eleven Railway Stations in Andhra Pradesh, namely, Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam, Hyderabad, Secunderabad, Kacheguda, Vijayawada, Rajahmundry, Guntakal, Tirupati, Kazipet and Renigunta.

(b) and (c) Work of provision of washable aprons has been completed at Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam, Secunderabad, Kacheguda, Vijayawada, Rajahmundry and Tirupati. In addition, the work at Visakhapatnam Yard has been taken up at a cost of

Rs. 84.60 lakhs and the work in nearing completion. Reconstruction of existing washable aprons in planned at Secunderabad and Rajahmundry. Works at Guntakal and Tirupati have been sanctioned at cost of Rs. 57.9 lakhs and Rs. 10 lakhs have been allotted during 2001-2002. Also, work at Secunderabad has been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 82 lakhs and Rs. 14 lakhs have been allotted during 2001-2002.

(d) and (e) The extension of facility of washable aprons at 'A' and 'B' category stations is a continuous process. Railways endeavour to extend this facility, within the available resources, to other important stations, especially, at terminal stations, where trains are received in the early hours of the day.

Doubling of Patna-Gaya rail line

4684. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to double the Patna-Gaya rail line;

(b) if so, whether survey therefor has been completed and the requisite funds allocated, for carrying out the doubling work;

(c) whether any time-frame has been fixed to execute the work; and

(d) if not, the reasons for not taking any steps to double the above rail line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. Doubling has been sanctioned from Patna to Taregna as the first phase of doubling from Patna to Gaya.

(b) Yes, Sir. Funds have been allotted for the sanctioned works of doubling between Patna-Taregna.

(c) and (d) Patna-Parasabazar (6km.) has been completed. The work on Parasabazar-Punpun-Taregna section is in progress and would be completed in the coming years as per availability of resources?